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## National

### **1- Global CO2 footprint to break another record in 2019, E&E News, 12/3/19**

<https://www.eenews.net/climatewire/2019/12/04/stories/1061716715>

By the end of the year, emissions from industrial activities and the burning of fossil fuels will pump an estimated 36.8 billion metric tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. And total carbon emissions from all human activities, including agriculture and land use, will likely cap off at about 43.1 billion tons.

### **2 – Latest EPA guidance weakens air protections in favor of industry, critics say, The Hill, 12/3/19**

<https://thehill.com/policy/defense/472890-latest-epa-guidance-weakens-air-protections-in-favor-of-industry-critics-say>

EPA) on Tuesday released its newest definition for ambient air in a move critics say will ease burdens on polluting industries. On its surface, the guidance deals less directly with air quality than it does with fencing. Though seemingly unrelated, the Clean Air Act doesn't apply to spaces where the public has been denied access, forcing polluting industries to surround their property with fencing.

### **3 - EPA Won't Regulate Chemicals Based on Draft Risk Evaluations, Bloomberg, 12/3/19**

<https://news.bloombergenvironment.com/environment-and-energy/epa-wont-regulate-chemicals-based-on-draft-risk-evaluations>

The EPA won't restrict or ban chemicals as imminent hazards based on preliminary conclusions it has reached in draft risk evaluations of those compounds, the agency's top chemicals official said Dec. 3.

### **4 – Methylene Chloride Riskier Than EPA Estimates, Groups Say, Bloomberg, 12/3/19**

<https://news.bloombergenvironment.com/environment-and-energy/methylene-chloride-solvent-riskier-than-epa-estimates-groups-say>

The widely used solvent methylene chloride poses an even greater chance of hurting people and the environment than the EPA found in an analysis that determined most uses of the chemical are too risky, environmental, health, and labor groups said Dec. 3.

### **5 – EPA Grants First Two Manufacturer Requests for Risk Evaluation, National Law Review, 12/3/19**

<https://www.natlawreview.com/article/epa-grants-first-two-manufacturer-requests-risk-evaluation>

EPA announced on December 2, 2019, that it granted the first two manufacturer requests for risk evaluations for diisodecyl phthalate (DIDP) and diisononyl phthalate (DINP), two chemicals used in plastic production.

### **6 – Policy aims to end IG, homeland security office infighting, E&E News, 12/2/19**

<https://www.eenews.net/greenwire/2019/12/03/stories/1061714593>

EPA has established a new policy that may help end years of infighting between its inspector general and homeland security office. EPA's internal watchdog has often fought with the agency's Office of Homeland Security for access to staff and records.

## Texas

### **7 - Officials: Fire is out but work still lies ahead, Beaumont Enterprise, 12/3/19**

<https://www.beaumontenterprise.com/news/article/Updates-County-mobile-medical-unit-headed-to-14878529.php>

Kids returned to school in Port Neches and residents worked to move forward on Tuesday as crews finally quenched the last blaze at the TPC Group site left burning since an early Nov. 27 explosion, but the return to seeming normality wasn't without questions about what comes next.

### **8 – As Port Neches Plant Smolders, Trump Rolls Back Safety Rules for Chemical Plants, Texas Observer, 12/3/19**

<https://www.texasobserver.org/as-port-neches-plant-smolders-trump-rolls-back-safety-rules-for-chemical-plants/>

Early Wednesday morning, inside a chemical manufacturing complex just southeast of Beaumont, a building erupted in a ball of flames, injuring eight people and sending acrid smoke wafting over southeast Texas.

### **9 - Students at Houston 'environmental justice' school among young people seeking climate action, Houston Chronicle, 12/4/19**

[https://www.houstonchronicle.com/news/houston-texas/houston/article/Students-at-Houston-environmental-justice-14879932.php?utm\\_source=desktop&utm\\_medium=collection&utm\\_campaign=hcpromomod#](https://www.houstonchronicle.com/news/houston-texas/houston/article/Students-at-Houston-environmental-justice-14879932.php?utm_source=desktop&utm_medium=collection&utm_campaign=hcpromomod#)

Fueled by a sense of justice and concern about their future, young people are part of an increasingly vocal and active movement of environmental advocates and activists in the region and around the world.

### **10 - Trump administration plans to open national forests in Texas to more oil and gas drilling, Houston Chronicle, 12/3/19**

<https://www.houstonchronicle.com/business/energy/article/Trump-administration-plans-to-open-national-14867890.php>

Environmentalists and other opponents are fighting Trump administration plans to open more than 1.9 million acres of national forests and grasslands in Texas to more oil and natural gas drilling activity, which would include plans to drill thousands of feet under Lake Conroe — the principal drinking water source for thousands of people in suburban Montgomery County.

## New Mexico

### **11 – Forest Service accepting comment on Pecos-area drilling plan, Albuquerque Journal, 12/3/19**

<https://www.abqjournal.com/1397215/forest-service-accepting-comment-on-pecos-area-drilling-plan.html>

The management of the Santa Fe National Forest is soliciting public input on the controversial proposal by Comexico LLC to conduct exploratory core drilling on national forest land north of Pecos in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains.